

## **NEWS FROM CITY HALL**

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## The Historic Sanford Welcome Center hosts the City's "I Love Sanford" Poet "Tree" Exhibit during the Art Walk on Friday, April 25<sup>th</sup> 6pm-9pm

Further promotion of the City's "I Love Sanford" poems received during the contest is the creation of a Poet "tree" exhibit to be displayed at the <u>Historic Sanford Welcome Center's</u> April Art Walk, whose theme this month is "home". Beginning this Friday, April 25 from 6pm-9pm at 230 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St. Sanford, the 32 poems submitted to the contest will be displayed artfully as leaves on real trees to fit the display theme of "home".

The Poet "tree" is also a recognition and celebration of National Arbor Day, on April 25. "There are many ways to honor National Arbor Day through exhibitions and educational activities about trees and their importance. The City's Poet "tree" exhibit creatively celebrates Arbor Day", said Elizabeth Harkey, City of Sanford Forester.

Thanks again to the three judges who read through the 32 poem entries and selected the three finalists. The judges were, Greater Regional Sanford Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Frank Hale, Seminole County Library Services Assistant North Branch Manager Lynne Smith and Seminole State College Read to Succeed QEP Academic Services Director Carissa Baker, M.A. The three poems were posted anonymously in March to the <u>City's Facebook</u> page as poems A, B, and C. The poem that received the most Facebook "likes" was the winner.

A special thank you to <u>Allegiant Air f</u>or generously donating the grand prize — two round-trip tickets to Niagara Falls, N.Y. Memorial Day Weekend 2014 from the <u>Orlando Sanford</u> <u>International Airport</u> and to Sanford's <u>Corner Café</u> and <u>Wayne Densch Performing Arts Center</u> for their donation to the second and third place winner.

"The Art Walk has a positive economic impact on the community; it demonstrates how the arts are an economic asset and an indicator of community vibrancy", said Brian Casey, Welcome Center Board Vice President and Art Walk Director.

Stop by the Historic Sanford Welcome Center, Friday, April 25 from 6pm-9pm to experience the City of Sanford's Poet "tree" by reading the incredibly inspiring poems submitted to the City's "I Love Sanford", Florida, poetry contest. The Poet "tree" exhibit will be mobile with plans for final display in the lobby of City Hall, 300 N. Park Ave.